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ABSTRACT

Topics summarized in this annual report of the Library Association for 1976 include improved contact between branch and headquarters staff; continued international relations; efforts to capture interests of groups and individuals outside the Library Association; public lending right, and economic cuts; closer liaison with people and organizations interested in the work of libraries; association membership; professional librarian qualifications; research and development relating to management training in librarianship, mobility of librarians in Europe, library statistics, book and periodical prices, bibliographical standards, cataloging rules, Dewey Decimal classification, future of the British Union Catalogue of Periodicals (BUCOP), multi-cultural library service, and service to the disadvantaged, a Royal Commission on the National Health Service, local library cooperation, and Association standards; conditions of service and salaries in public, and university libraries; and a summary of British Library activities. A list of new and pending Association publications, and brief reports by representatives on joint committees and other organizations are also provided. (Author/MBR)

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THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
FOUNDED 1877 INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER 1898

ED154822

Annual Report

of the Council of the Association for the year ending 31st December, 1976 Presented at the annual meeting in London 1977

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION

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THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
7 RIDGMOUNT STREET LONDON WC1E 7AE

Introduction by the President

By its very nature, an Annual Report can rarely be the most exciting document produced by an Association. It is a factual account of work done; it should follow the advice given by Bishop Sprat of Rochester to members of the infant Royal Society, to adopt a close, naked and natural style, and avoid the language of wits and scholars. Our Report for 1976 is none the less interesting for doing so, and I hope that all our members will read it, for it contains a record of activity that will encourage all, and maybe surprise some.

The year saw the settling down of the new organization, not entirely to our satisfaction as yet, but showing clear improvements over the previous form. One matter still receiving attention is the best way to ensure that small specialist groups do not feel themselves to be overshadowed by the larger ones. "Representation of the people" is vital for a democratic association, and was one of the major concerns expressed to me on my travels to Branches and Groups. The Headquarters staff have shown great willingness to attend meetings and improve their contacts with the members; we feel a particular effort should be made towards colleagues in more distant areas, and I hope that plenty of invitations will continue to arrive.

The well-earned retirement of the last "Old Guards" came with the departure of D. D. Haslam and F. J. Cornell. We are not losing their great skill and experience entirely, for both have agreed to help us in connection with organization and publications. In recognition of his great service as Deputy Secretary, I had the personal pleasure of presenting the certificate of Honorary Fellowship to Dan Haslam at the Annual Conference. The new Deputy Secretary, Russell Bowden, quickly showed that he brings a wide-ranging international experience which will be of particular importance in the coming years.

If inspiring comment, whether good or bad, is a measure of success, the new-style *Library Association Record* has hit the mark; indeed, Roger Walter must sometimes feel that he has caught a tiger by the tail. The *Record* was our main scholarly journal for decades, but now that the *Journal of Librarianship* has established itself, the *Record* can become what I think, judging by comments, our members require just as much: a journal of informed commentary on topical matters. Mr Walter has also ranged widely over less well-known subjects and libraries, and has been able to involve a greater number of individual members in the production of our journal.

Our Association has always enjoyed excellent relations with other library associations, and one of the outstanding events of my term of office was the Centennial Convention of the American Library Association, which my wife and I attended, along with over 10 000 others. The City of Chicago resounded for a week with talk on every conceivable topic, bibliographical and otherwise, and I presented an illuminated address commemorating the occasion and the close friendship of our two associations. Another notable century was notched up by the Decimal Classification, and thanks to the generosity of the Forest Press we were able to hold an international conference at Banbury to discuss problems and exchange experience. Another successful Anglo-Scandinavian Conference took place, the 8th in what now seems an indestructible tradition, and drew attention to the needs and difficulties of libraries in remote areas. We continued the fruitful exchanges with Italian

librarians, and extended our European co-operation by setting up a similar arrangement with Spain. The IFLA Conference also took place in Europe, at Lausanne, where a large British delegation was able to contribute to all areas of the discussions, and supply a good quantity of the sectional officers. That so many organizations in addition to the LA are willing to support IFLA in this way augurs well for its 50th anniversary conference in 1977.

We have begun a determined effort to capture the interest of individuals and groups outside the LA. The new Minister for the Arts, Lord Donaldson, addressed the Annual Conference, received a delegation to discuss important current matters like economic cuts and Public Lending Right, and visited HQ to meet members of Council and staff. Closer relations are being sought with booksellers, publishers, archives and museums people, as well as leading members from the Arts Council, the Commonwealth Foundation, the Association of Education Committees, and many other organizations concerned with or interested in the work of libraries. HQ has always been a centre for receiving professional visitors, and we hope that we can now widen our "catchment area"! Another aspect of this policy of looking outwards is the programme of short courses, which I believe will contribute a great deal towards solving new problems of our developing professional activities, in co-operation with other bodies facing similar tasks.

For most of our members, the economic crisis undoubtedly brought the fiercest challenges. The actions taken by the Council are detailed in this Report, and it is hard to take an optimistic view of the outcome. Here, let me just stress that the Council and officers are determined to let no opportunity pass, both for protest and for constructive criticism. What is done is often not publicly visible, and even what is done successfully can at times, unfortunately, receive all too little recognition. In the area of university libraries, for example, the "Atkinson Report" on capital provision has been bitterly, sometimes wildly, attacked, but the Council has persevered in taking a constructive line in all its discussions, and I have no doubt that this is the best way to ensure that our views carry weight in the right quarters. We have been fortunate in securing as our President for 1977 Sir Frederick Dainton, Chairman of the UGC, which will, I know, achieve for us a close and sympathetic attention in this, as in all other matters.

It would require the tongues of angels to express all that Joy and I have felt about our year in the Presidency. Devolution or no, the warmth of our reception in Scotland and Wales will remain a treasured memory; while, at the present time, to have attended the joint Library Association of Ireland/Northern Ireland Branch conference at Ennis was a privilege—a practical expression of comradeship and community of endeavour which other more highly-placed persons might well ponder. In all our Branches and Groups, there is a wealth of ability, vigour, and pride in our profession and its work for society which would be hard to surpass. This sense of commitment is one which can give much, not only to the community of our profession, but also to our country and the community of nations. We have much to offer, and we have the will to do so.

D. J. FOSKETT

Honorary Fellows

In recognition of their distinguished service in promoting the objectives of the Association the following persons were elected Honorary Fellows:

D. D. Haslam
J. D. Pearson

Honour to Members

The following members were honoured by the Queen during the year:

Miss M. E. Going awarded the MBE
L. Helliwell awarded the MBE
I. W. Kemp awarded the MBE
W. Scobbie awarded the MBE
W. A. Taylor awarded the OBE
J. F. T. Thomson awarded the MBE

Awards

The Carnegie Medal was awarded to Robert Westall for *The Machine Gunners* (Macmillan).

The Kate Greenaway Medal was awarded to Victor Ambrus for *Horses in battle* and *Mishka* (Oxford University Press).

The Besterman Medal for an outstanding bibliography or guide to the literature was awarded to *Printed maps of Victorian London 1851-1900*, by R. Hyde (Dawson).

The McColvin Medal for an outstanding reference book was awarded to *Folksongs of Britain and Ireland; a guidebook to the living tradition of folksinging in the British Isles and Ireland*; edited by P. Kennedy (Cassell).

The Wheatley Medal for an outstanding index was awarded to Mrs M. D. Anderson for her index to *Copy-editing: the Cambridge handbook*, by J. Butcher (Cambridge University Press).

Membership of the Association

During the year 1817 members were elected or reinstated, 1431 were removed through death, resignation or non-payment of subscriptions. The membership at 31st December 1976 was as follows:

	Personal	*Affiliated*	*Total*
Ordinary ..	20 607	539	21 146
Honorary ..	28	—	28
Corresponding ..	1 937	413	2 350
	22 572	952	23 524

This represents an increase in membership of 386, and a further year of strengthening of the membership of the Association. Over the last ten years the membership has increased by 52%.

Register of Chartered Librarians

In 1976 there were 18 members entered on the Register as Fellows (11 male and 7 female). There were 1206 members registered as Associates (318 male and 888 female). From academic libraries there were 3 Fellows and 307 Associates, from public libraries there were 11 Fellows and 726 Associates. From special libraries there were 3 Fellows and 159 Associates. Two of the Fellows and 696 of the Associates registered were graduates.

	Registrations and reinstatements	*Resignations, deaths, etc.*	*Trans. to FLA*	*Totals 1.1.76*	*Totals 31.12.76*
Associates ..	1 319	555	18	13 822	14 568
Fellows ..	28	58	—	1 894	1 864
Total Chartered Librarians ..	1 347	613	18	15 716	16 432

Branches and Groups

During the year the Association was informed of 122 meetings, 16 conferences, 26 weekend schools and other activities organized by the 12 branches and 17 groups. This provides a most important focus for professional work. This involvement of the individual member in the corporate concerns of the profession, through the branches and groups, is an indication of the strength of the underlying organization of professional concern in the United Kingdom.

Public Lending Right

The Government's Bill to introduce a public lending right for authors, limited to lending through public libraries and authors of single-author titles, ran out of time during the 1975/76 Session. The Bill was put forward to honour the commitment given in the Queen's Speech in November 1975 but, in spite of the support given by both major parties, faced considerable opposition and an apparent inability on the part of its supporters to muster sufficient attendance at the crucial times in its faltering progress. Extensive debates, particularly at the Committee stage, concentrated upon the apparent ambiguities of the Bill and the extent to which introduction of the right on the limited basis proposed (including the limited financial provision of £1 million, and estimated administrative expenditure in excess of £400 000) provided an equitable basis for the right.

It is now anticipated that the report of the Whitford Committee on copyright and designs will be published early in 1977, and it seems unlikely that the Government will propose legislation for a public lending right before the implications of that report have been considered. No reference was made in the Queen's speech in November to any proposal to bring forward the Bill again in the 1976/77 session.

Staff Matters

1976 was again a year in which the Association lost the services, through retirement, of long-serving senior members of the staff. F. J. Cornell retired after 40 years' service to the Association. His contribution to the development of the Association's publishing activities over this period was substantial, and in recent years his professional application particularly to the *Library Association Record* and the *Journal of Librarianship* was always evident in the quality of these publications.

D. D. Haslam, after 28 years' contribution to the Association as a member of staff, retired in April; originally appointed in 1948 as Membership Officer, he became Deputy Secretary in 1959. As the senior professional librarian on the staff he enjoyed participating in the developments through those years which saw the flowering of professional provision in the United Kingdom, and the development of the Association from a membership of some 8500 to the current level. His expertise in negotiations on salaries and conditions of service is particularly difficult to replace.

Russell Bowden joined the Association as Deputy Secretary in September from the Department of Library and Information Studies at Loughborough University. In addition to his involvement with professional education he brings to the Association an extensive experience of librarianship overseas gained through 16 years' experience with the British Council.

Education

Future of Professional Qualifications

The new Working Party, referred to in last year's report and set up following the rejection by Council of the report of an earlier Working Party, met at intervals throughout the year. A research grant from the British Library Research and Development Division was agreed in June for the appointment of a research assistant to the Working Party. In October a new Chairman, Miss Lorna Paulin, formerly County Librarian of Hertfordshire, was appointed as a result of the illness of Mr Ronald Sturt: the Working Party is now committed to producing its report in May 1977.

Part-time BA courses for Associates

Two courses have now been approved by the CNAA and will commence at The Polytechnic of North London and Newcastle Polytechnic in January 1977. Other courses are expected to receive approval during 1977 for commencement either in October or in January 1978. The Professional Development and Education Committee carried out a survey of 10% of the non-graduate Associate members of the Association to try to discover the potential demand for these new courses. A 59% return was received, 55.91% of the respondents expressing interest in the new courses.

Training in Libraries

The Working Party on Training produced a draft report which was approved by Council in October. It was agreed that, following certain editorial work, the report

should be published and it is expected that this will occur in 1977. The Working Party continues in existence to produce a more detailed report on specific points.

Certificate for Teacher Librarians
The last examination for the current Teacher/Librarian Certificate will be held in 1977.

Mature Registration Scheme
The Mature Registration Panel is currently considering whether the Scheme could be improved. Inquiry is being made of people who have registered since the inception of the Scheme to obtain information on the adequacy of existing arrangements from the viewpoint of the student. The Panel expects to comment to the Working Party on the Future of Professional Qualifications.

Degrees and Diplomas
The following additional degrees and diplomas in library and information science were approved for exemption from the final examination of the Association. Holders of these qualifications will be able to apply for registration as Chartered Librarians after completing the membership and service requirements of Byelaw 6(a) (iii).

Manchester Polytechnic:	CNAA Post-Graduate Diploma Part-time
Birmingham Polytechnic:	CNAA Post-Graduate Diploma
The Polytechnic of North London:	CNAA BA/BA Honours Librarianship Part-time
The Polytechnic of North London:	CNAA MA Librarianship Part-time

Examinations

	Number of candidates in 1976		
	Summer	*Winter*	*Totals*
Part I	291	93	384
Part II	431	247	678
Post-Graduate . .	165	4	169
	887	344	1 231

The total number of people who completed the Association's Part I and Post-Graduate Examinations was 847. In addition, a further 903 candidates obtained diplomas and degrees in librarianship from other bodies whose qualifications give exemption from the Association's final examination. A total of 1750 persons completed the examination part of their qualification compared with 1 480 in 1975.

Prizes
The winner of the Cawthorne Prize for the best results in the Part I Examination in 1976 was Mr Ian Purser (Brighton Polytechnic School of Librarianship).

The winner of the Sayers Memorial Prize for the best results in the 1976 Examination in the theory of classification was Mr C. M. Deas (Institute of Education Library, University of London).

Theses

The number of proposals of thesis subjects in 1976 was 23, of which 13 were approved. The number of completed theses submitted was 19, of which 17 were accepted before the end of the year.

Short Courses

In 1975 Council recommended that the Association should be concerned with the provision of a programme of short courses principally aimed at the qualified librarian. It is pleasing to report, therefore, that from the end of 1975 and throughout 1976 the Association has begun to undertake the organization of seminars and similar activities on a growing scale.

In so doing, the Association has endeavoured to concentrate on areas where provision is lacking and also in those areas where the subject matter is pervasive and not restricted to the interests of groups and sections.

The following programme was provided centrally during 1975 and 1976.

Library Service in a Multi-racial Community—13th November 1975 (130 people attended).

Current Practices in Cataloguing and Classification—17th December 1976 (31 people attended).

Non-book materials: Librarianship's New Frontier—24th and 25th February 1976 (45 people attended).

Local Government Information Services: a practical workshop for senior librarians—18th March 1976 (33 people attended).

Machine Interface problems in libraries—1st and 2nd April 1976 (14 people attended).

Public relations: libraries and the media—30th June 1976 (15 people attended).

Prison Libraries: a study of library provision within penal institutions in England and Wales—27th October 1976 (40 people attended).

On-line retrieval: the user's viewpoint—3rd November 1976 (92 people attended).

Seminar on developments in the organization and availability of non-book materials—18th November 1976 (the seminar was by invitation and 58 people attended).

Current Practices in Cataloguing Classification, Indexing and Information Retrieval—8th December 1976 (62 people attended).

Discussions have been held with the British Library and the University of London as to whether their staff could benefit from the provision by the Association of an extended short course programme. Both organizations indicated that they would welcome the Association's initiative in this respect, as they were of the opinion that the provision of courses for their middle and senior staff was not solely a matter for internal provision. As a result the further development of the programme is planned for 1977.

Negotiations were under way at the end of the year for the Association to publish the Short Course Directory currently produced by the British Library. Publication by the Association would ensure that details of available courses reached the widest audience and encourage awareness of the level of provision being made.

National Conference, 1976

The National Conference of the Association was held in Scarborough from the 6th to 10th September and included the Annual General Meeting for 1976 and the Presidential Address. The Minister for the Arts, Lord Donaldson, addressed the Conference at a special session. Five groups/sections of the Association accepted invitations to hold sessions at the Conference. There were a number of visitors from overseas, the official guest of the Association being Dottssa. Vilma Alberani, President, Lazio Section, Associazione Italiana Biblioteche.

Papers were given by: W. Davies (Librarian, Bradford Metropolitan District Council), N. Higham (Librarian, University of Bristol), R. D. Mannix (Manager, Library and Information Services, Unilever Research, Port Sunlight Laboratory), A. Wilson (Director, Libraries and Museums, Cheshire), Miss L. V. Paulin (formerly County Librarian, Hertfordshire), A. Jesson (recently Student, Department of Library and Information Studies, Loughborough University of Technology), M. F. Messenger (Assistant County Librarian, Shropshire County Libraries), Miss D. H. McCulla (Head of Local Studies Department, Birmingham Public Libraries), R. P. Hilliard (Secretary, The Library Association), C. Clark (Managing Director, The Hutchinson Publishing Group Ltd.), J. P. Morgan (Director of Publications Distribution, HMSO), and the Archbishop of York.

The National Conference, which replaced the Public Libraries Conference held in previous years, failed to meet the expectations held for it. The attendance was substantially lower than anticipated and predominantly drawn from the public library sector rather than fully representative of the whole of the profession as had been intended. The level of direct involvement of the groups of the Association promised well for the future, but the Conference will need to gain much wider support if it is to meet the aim of the Association in providing an annual national focus for the whole of the profession.

Eighth Anglo-Scandinavian Public Library Conference

The eighth Anglo-Scandinavian Public Library Conference was held in Brighton from 7th to 11th May. The theme of the Conference was "Service points in sparsely populated areas". Fifty-one delegates attended from Denmark, Finland, Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom, and an observer from Eire. Papers were given by Mrs B. Heggeland (Library Adviser, State Library Directorate, Oslo), Mr J. Ristarp (The National Council for Cultural Affairs, Stockholm), the late Mr R. Hale (County Librarian, Cornwall), and Mr B. Sorenson (Inspector, State Inspection of Public Libraries, Copenhagen).

The Association is indebted to the British Council and to the Department of Education and Science who, with the Library Association, jointly sponsored the Conference.

Immediately following the Conference a number of the Scandinavian delegates took part in a study tour which visited Birmingham, Stratford-upon-Avon, Oxford, Nottingham and Bedford. Consideration is now being given to plans for the 1979 Conference in Denmark.

Research and Development

Research Publications

The following title was issued in the Association's Research Publications Series:

16: *The effective library: report of the Hillingdon project on public library effectiveness*, by B. Totterdell and J. Bird; edited by M. Redfern.

RADIALS *Bulletin*

The Annual Report for 1974 gave details of the first issue of RADIALS *Bulletin* (Research and Development – Information and Library Science), publication of which is supported by a British Library grant. This *Bulletin* has grown out of the Register of Research which appeared in the Association's *Year Book* from 1968 to 1973.

Descriptions of over 500 current United Kingdom research and development projects in librarianship and information science were listed in the three issues published during 1976. It has been agreed that, as a production economy, publication will be reduced to two issues a year in 1977.

Research Grant

A research grant was awarded to the Public Libraries Management Research Unit, Leeds Polytechnic, to support a study on the effects of local government reorganization on public library policies.

Management Training in Librarianship

The project on the provision of management training for librarians and information scientists, grant-aided by the British Library, is now complete and final reporting took place in December. The broad conclusions reached were that substantial steps needed to be taken to narrow the gap between provision and perceived needs, and it also became clear that both the extent and the adequacy of provision did not meet reasonable minimum standards. It is hoped that the Association and other bodies will be able to implement some of the report's recommendations designed to improve the situation. The report of the project will be published by the Association early in 1977.

Mobility of Librarians in Europe

A study on the Mobility of Employment (InternationaL) for Librarians in EURope (MEILLEUR) continued during the year. It is being carried out by the College of Librarianship Wales, grant-aided by the Association; Anthony Thompson is Research Fellow for this project.

The aim of the project is to discover first, what employment and exchanges of librarians have already been achieved between the nine member countries of the European Economic Community at the levels of students of librarianship and qualified librarians, both by exchange and by full employment, and which libraries have employed such personnel, or are willing to do so. Secondly, to discover the obstacles or restrictions which are now hindering such employment, whether legal or practical; thirdly, to suggest ways of overcoming these difficulties, and to establish guide-lines for better international co-operation in this field. During the year the project was extended to other countries in Western Europe outside the European Economic Community.

Library Statistics

In 1975 the British Library and the Department of Education and Science jointly sponsored a study of the provision of statistical series relevant to libraries. During 1976 representatives of the Association attended a series of meetings to discuss various aspects of the draft report and recommendations (*Statistical series relevant to libraries*, by N. Moore, BLR&D Report 5300, 1976) on the collection of statistics for national, academic, public school, higher and further education libraries, manpower and research needs.

The Association's Statistics Sub-Committee held its first meeting in November to discuss what action is required in relation to the recommendations of the study. The Sub-Committee's terms of reference are: "To study and report on the survey and statistical work necessary for supplying adequate information to support the Association's activities and to be of use to the profession; to indicate, where appropriate in co-operation with other bodies, such survey and statistical work."

Average Book and Periodical Prices

February saw the publication in the *Library Association Record* of the first of a series of interim average book price figures based on an analysis of publications listed in the *British National Bibliography*. These figures will now appear every four months, those for January and April in June, for May to August in October, and for September to December in February. Annual compilations will continue, but for the calendar year January to December, rather than July to June, and these will appear in February, starting with the 1976 figures in February 1977.

The comparative index to periodical prices compiled by B. H. Blackwell Limited was published in the May issue of the *Library Association Record* rather than in August.

Bibliographical Standards

The report of the Association's Working Party on Bibliographic Standards was approved by Council in June. The Working Party was set up as a result of the consideration of the papers presented at the Western European Seminar on the Interchange of Bibliographic Information in Machine Readable Form held in May 1974. A national standing forum is to be set up to act as a means of communication on bibliographical standards matters between professional opinion and the British Library. The object of the standing forum is to ensure that bibliographical standards are arrived at and adopted after the fullest consultation with users. Representatives will be nominated by the British Library, Aslib, the Institution of Information Scientists, the Association, SCONUL and COPOL.

Association representatives on standards committees are to be asked to communicate generally with the rest of the membership on matters of interest at any stage of the standards process. Groups and Sections of the Association will be asked to monitor so far as is possible ongoing and prospective bibliographical standards activity in their field of interest and bring points for action to the Association's notice.

Cataloguing Rules

During the year under review the Library Association/British Library Committee on Revision of the Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules met monthly, and the Joint

Steering Committee for Revision of AACR had three meetings, in Washington in February, in London in May and in Toronto in November.

An approach was made by the Association in conjunction with the other copyright holders, the American Library Association and the Canadian Library Association, to the Council on Library Resources for an extension of the project to the end of March 1977 to allow for a review of the whole final draft text of the second edition of AACR. It is expected that the second edition will be published in 1977.

Dewey Decimal Classification

1976 saw the celebration of one hundred years of the Dewey Decimal Classification. Devised by Melvil Dewey in the 1870s, the first edition, *A classification and subject index for cataloguing and arranging the books and pamphlets in a library*, was published anonymously in 1876.

In September, 45 delegates from 20 European countries and the United States of America attended a five-day European Centenary Seminar on the DDC at Banbury, which was organized by the Association on behalf of Forest Press, the publishers of the classification. The topics covered included the DC and its international commitments, its place in North America and Britain, how an edition is prepared, French and Spanish translations, and its place in Universal Bibliographic Control. The proceedings of the seminar are being prepared for publication.

At the conclusion of the seminar four early and long time users of DC in Great Britain and Ireland were presented with centenary plaques by the Forest Press Division of the Lake Placid Education Foundation at a ceremony at LA headquarters. The libraries were Peterborough, part of Cambridgeshire Libraries; Bradford; the National Library of Ireland; and Tameside, Ashton-under-Lyne.

The Chairman of the Association's Dewey Decimal Classification Subcommittee, Mr J. C. Downing, attended meetings in Albany, New York, in March and Washington, DC, in November of the Editorial Policy Committee of the Decimal Classification.

Future of BUCOP

In April the British Library called a joint meeting of representatives of the British Library, SCONUL, COPOL and the Association to discuss the future of BUCOP (British Union Catalogue of Periodicals). As a result of information on the British Library's commitment to a national serials data centre the Association convened a meeting in July of 35 selected representatives to discuss the developments. Following this meeting it was pointed out to the British Library that BUCOP has proved to be an essential bibliographical tool and its "locations" function is most valuable; BUCOP should not be abandoned until the new list is issued and proved acceptable; a national location list is believed to be essential. Further knowledge of the British Library's intentions is awaited.

Annual Reports of Nationalized Industries

In July the Association made representations to the Select Committee on the House of Commons (Services) over the difficulties raised for libraries and the public by their recommendation that the annual reports of nationalized industries would now be printed and published outside the HMSO system. The approach was at the instance of the Association's HMSO Services Working Party.

Libraries and Literacy

The second edition of *New readers start here: a critical evaluation of reading schemes used by tutors of adult new readers together with an annotated list of other materials found to be useful*, edited by Mrs J. Bell and grant-aided by the Adult Literacy Resource Agency, was published by the Association in August. This led in October to the award of a further grant from the Agency to continue the monitoring and reporting of new material for adult new readers. Mrs J. Armour was appointed to work on supplements to the second edition which will be published in *ALRA Newsletter*.

In November the Adult Literacy Resource Agency invited the Association to be represented on its Management Committee: Mrs M. Redfern was appointed to this position.

Libraries in a Multi-cultural Britain

A one-day workshop on "Library resources for our many races", attended by 70 people, was held at the School of Music, Birmingham Polytechnic on 15th May. The workshop enabled librarians from public authorities, schools, colleges of education and further education to give considerations to the need for and problems associated with the provision of resources for multi-racial community libraries.

In November the Association issued a statement designed to encourage libraries to play an increasingly active part in the provision of library services reflecting a multi-cultural Britain. *Public libraries in a multi-cultural Britain* was circulated to the Chief Librarians of Public Libraries and Directors of Education in Great Britain and to Community Relations Officers and the leaders of the various community associations.

Services to the Disadvantaged

At the beginning of the year the Professional Development and Education Committee set up a Services to the Disadvantaged Sub-committee with two advisory panels for New Readers and for Reading for the Visually Handicapped. The Services to the Disadvantaged Sub-committee sees its role as being: "To maintain a watching brief on library services to disadvantaged readers (these being defined as being disadvantaged by isolation, disadvantaged by handicap, and disadvantaged as a result of a lack of recognition of the benefits to be gained from library services)."

In September the Association published a leaflet on *Reading for the visually handicapped* which was intended to provide information for people with poor sight about some of the large print books and reading aids available for them, and also as an information resource for those who select, advise on and disseminate such material.

Royal Commission on the National Health Service

In May the Government set up a Royal Commission on the National Health Service to consider, in the interests of both the patients and of those who work in the National Health Service, the best use and management of the financial and manpower resources of the National Health Service. The Association submitted written evidence on behalf of librarians working in the National Health Service or serving the professions and disciplines associated with it, such as medicine and social welfare.

Local Library Co-operation

During the year the Association set up a Working Party on Local Library Co-operation following publication of the report on local library co-operation in Sheffield. This study was specifically concerned with co-operation in support of higher education and was carried out by the University of Sheffield Postgraduate School of Librarianship, and funded by the Department of Education and Science. The report stated that "if further research is to be undertaken into library co-operation it is recommended that it should be concerned with the totality of library resources within a local area."

The Working Party in its statement, published in the December issue of the *Library Association Record*, expressed support for the recommendations contained in the report. It was recognized that a great deal of co-operation can be achieved without formal mechanism and with little cost to libraries. The subject of co-operation is now under consideration by the Library Advisory Council (England).

Standards

The Association continued its work on the revision of its standards for school library resource centres and library provision in the health service. Work is also in hand for standards for prison libraries and university extra-mural libraries.

The final draft of the revised standards for school library resource centres was agreed by the School Library Resource Centres Sub-committee in December and will be published early in 1977, subject to Council's approval.

The Working Party on Recommended Standards for Library Provision in the Health Service continued its revision of *Hospital Libraries: recommended standards for libraries in hospitals* (LA, 1973). It is hoped to publish the standards in 1977 after discussion with the appropriate Groups and Sections of the Association and with other interested organizations.

During the year a Working Party was set up to draft standards for university extra-mural libraries, and work is at an advanced stage of preparation.

The Prison Libraries Sub-group of the Hospital Libraries and Handicapped Readers Group of the Association undertook to prepare a preliminary draft of standards for prison libraries. It is hoped that this stage of the work will be completed early in 1977.

Salaries and Conditions of Service

There have been few major developments during 1976 in this area of the Association's concerns. The constraints arising from the Government's pay policies and the general economic difficulties have created a climate which is not conducive to any significant development. For all sectors of the profession the Association's normal activities have continued; the giving of advice to librarians and their employers, scrutiny of national advertisements for posts in librarianship to ensure compatibility with accepted professional requirements, and support for individual members seeking improvement in their salaries and conditions of service. Activity in these areas has increased due partly to the need to ensure that advantage was not taken of the general situation to lower salaries, and also to the desire of members to use the period of restraint to prepare cases for improved salaries or conditions of service when government policies permit.

The Working Party on the Salaries of Non-university Academic Staff reported to Council in October, but the report was referred back for further consideration on certain points. It is anticipated that a revised report will be presented early in 1977. Towards the end of the year two working parties were established to examine the Conditions of Service of Non-university Academic Staff and the Salaries and Conditions of Service of School Librarians.

Public Libraries

In the Annual Report for 1975 reference was made to the award made by the Board of Arbitration of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service in the negotiations in the National Joint Council for an improved grading decision for Chartered Librarians. The discussions which were held in 1975, following the recommendation of the Board that "the parties should forthwith undertake an adequate job evaluation exercise", were continued during the year. In October NALGO arranged a meeting between the Staff Side, together with representatives of the Library Association and the Employers' Side to consider the proposed job evaluation. At the meeting it quickly became obvious that the employers' Side saw the ACAS proposal as an opportunity to seek a broadly-based job evaluation exercise, for which they were willing to pay. The Staff Side, however, felt that such an exercise would not be acceptable to other professional groups represented within NALGO. The Joint Secretaries agreed to report to the next meeting of the National Council that the mounting of the proposed job evaluation exercise along the lines recommended by ACAS was not possible. The Library Service Committee of Council, which has responsibility for considering salaries and conditions of service for all members, recommended that the Association request NALGO and the Staff Side to report to the National Council that, as the recommendation by ACAS for a job evaluation exercise was not being implemented, the matter should be referred back to ACAS. The National Council decided, after much debate, that there should be no reference back for elucidation at this stage, and decided to take no further action at the present time. This leaves open the possibility that the recommendation of the Arbitrators will be taken up at some time in the future should circumstances permit. The NALGO position on the recommendation by ACAS was considered by the Sub-Committee on Salaries and Conditions of Service which has made recommendations for future action which will be under discussion early in 1977. The Library Service Committee will continue to keep this matter under review in order that, even in a period of economic restraint when salary improvements are difficult to achieve, the issue should not be allowed to lapse.

As a result of the unsatisfactory outcome of the negotiations to date, and a resultant sense of frustration with the existing negotiating machinery for the profession, a detailed examination is being undertaken to investigate ways in which the profession's views might be better and more effectively represented within the national negotiating machinery.

In 1975 the Association urged NALGO to negotiate changes in the criteria under which premium payments for shift work, etc., are made in libraries, to enable more library staff required to work other than normal office hours to receive the full benefit of the premium payments. Unfortunately, the terms of the Social Contract make impossible any progress in these negotiations due to the limits imposed on salary increases, and the fact that any increase arising from such changes would

limit the overall increases for the members of NALGO. NALGO does not feel that, at present, it is prepared to take this matter any further.

Following the undertaking given by NALGO to raise the discrimination operated by the NJC in the Trainee Grade, under appendix A to the Scheme of Conditions of Service, a special joint working party of the NJC met during the year at which it was decided to consider the removal of the provisions which discriminate against library staff.

Public Libraries

The predominant concern of the Association during 1976, in all sectors, was with the effects on library services of the economic situation and government policies for public expenditure. The Association continued to monitor the effects of these policies on the public library services and to make early information available to members. Early in 1976 it proved possible, for the first time, to obtain from the Department of Education and Science the breakdown of the public expenditure forecast figures for libraries (included in Cmnd Paper 6393, "Public Expenditure to 1979-80"). These figures indicated that, for public libraries in England and Wales, provision was made for a small increase over the period in the level of current expenditure: this was contrary to the impression given by the base figures shown in the Cmnd paper, and as a result it proved possible for several library services to avoid tentatively proposed cuts in the level of provision. In November it was possible to circulate information indicating the level of provision envisaged in the Rate Support Grant settlement negotiations for 1977/1978. These figures initially reflected a 1.3% growth in the level of financial provision for the year, and again this was contrary to the assumptions being generally made and which implied a reduction in financial support for public library services.

Against this background, the situation is much less satisfactory: the out-turn figures of expenditure for 1975/76 indicate that libraries were required during that year to take an excessive share of the proposed economies over that envisaged in the Rate Support Grant figures for that year. The effects of that excessive reduction have been reflected into the 1976/77 and 1977/78 provisions, but have to some extent been taken account of in the allowance for growth for the coming financial year.

Relations with the new Minister for the Arts, Lord Donaldson, appointed during 1976, have been cordial: he addressed the Association's National Conference and visited Ridgmount Street in addition to receiving a delegation from the Association to discuss a number of matters, including the situation of the library service in Buckinghamshire. Lord Donaldson has agreed to meet regularly with representatives of the Association to discuss matters of common concern.

The Association has been active during the year in negotiations concerning the staffing establishments of several library authorities, including that of Birmingham, where proposals to reduce substantially the status of the service and its chief officer, which could have established an unfortunate national precedent, were eventually withdrawn as a result of local and national opposition.

In general the Council has been satisfied that library services have not been the subject of expenditure cuts in excess of those being made in other local authority services. In those cases which have been brought to the attention of the Asso-

ciation, representations have been made in support of local initiatives to try to ensure that the generally high quality of library services throughout the country should be maintained. The proposed cuts in public expenditure announced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in December give considerable cause for concern, and there is no doubt that the profession at large will need to resist with vigour the proposals to reduce expenditure, and, in particular, the increasing pressure to introduce charges for public library services. At the end of the year the Secretariat was carefully observing two authorities which appear to have under consideration disproportionate reductions in expenditure on library services, and a revised statement of the Council's opposition to the introduction of charging for loans was in preparation.

1976 saw the publication by the Department of Education and Science of the long awaited "Staffing of public libraries: a report of the research undertaken by the Local Authorities Management Services and Computers Committee" (the LAMSAC Report). A preliminary statement in the *Record* welcomed publication of the Report and consideration is being given to the appropriate detailed response by the profession to the matters raised by the Report.

University Libraries

The University Grants Committee's Report on "Capital Provision for University Libraries" (The Atkinson Report) published in mid-year immediately aroused a storm of protest and criticism. Close liaison with SCONUL over the Report continues to ensure a co-ordinated approach. At the end of the year consideration was still being given to a detailed statement to be issued by the Association arising from the recommendations of the University, College and Research Section.

Staffing

The Department of Education and Science Census of Staffing of Library Services in the United Kingdom took place on 31st March. It is anticipated that the results will be published in March 1977. The Association has set up a Commission to examine the present supply and demand of qualified librarians which it is anticipated will report to Council early in 1977: the Commission was set up in response to the Association's concern for the employment prospects for qualified librarians following the radical change in expectations for the British economy.

Policy for the Arts

As a result of the publication by the Labour Party of a Green Paper on "The Arts: a discussion document for the Labour Movement" the Association prepared a statement entitled "Libraries and the Arts: co-operation for a fuller life", which was sent to the Labour Party accompanied by the Association's detailed comments on the Green Paper. An Association deputation met with the Conservative Party Policy Review Committee on Literature and Libraries to bring forward the points made in the Association's statement.

Data Protection Committee

As a result of the report of the Younger Committee on Privacy, the government established the Data Protection Committee with the function of preparing the way for the setting up of permanent statutory arrangements to protect personal information held in computer systems. The Association, through a working party, submitted a memorandum of evidence to the Committee which was published in the *Record* for January 1977.

International Relations Activities

The British Council were able to provide a further grant of £2000 for use in the continuation of the Association's programme of international relations activities.

Co-operation with the profession in Italy was continued and a representative of the Association attended the 26th Congress of the Associazione Italiana Biblioteche, and a representative of the AIB attended the National Conference at Scarborough. A party of five Italian librarians toured the UK when visits were made to libraries at Edinburgh, Birmingham, Oxford and London, including all Divisions of the British Library.

A further exchange programme of visits took place between four British and four Spanish librarians. The Spanish party visited the United Kingdom for twelve days, each member of the party being attached to one British library for the main part of the visit in order to study in depth the work of that particular library system. The British party visited Spain for a period of twelve days when visits were made to libraries in Madrid, Toledo, Leon, Burgos and Vitoria.

The Secretary-General of IFLA informed us that the Library Associations of Sierra Leone and Tanzania were still not in a position to pay their subscriptions to IFLA. The Association therefore continued its sponsorship of these two Associations for another year.

International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA)

Britain continued to make energetic contributions to the work of IFLA. Thirty-eight British librarians attended the August Lausanne Council, making the British delegation the third largest. British librarians presented papers to meetings arranged by the Sections, participated in discussions and continued to support IFLA projects such as Universal Bibliographical Control and the Office for International Lending.

A meeting to consider the implications of the new statutes of the International Federation of Library Associations, passed at its August Council in Lausanne, was held of representatives of all current IFLA Associate Members, together with heads of IFLA projects in Britain, members of IFLA Standing Advisory Committees and members of the Library Association IFLA Steering Committee. It agreed to establish a National IFLA Committee to ensure that all aspects of British librarianship will be represented in IFLA's work through its Sections.

UNISIST (World Science Information System)

The problems that have beset the Unesco Secretariat over the UNISIST programme, operated under the Science Division, and the programme concerned with the establishment of NATIS (National Information Systems) and with the general development of the libraries, archives and documentation programmes under the

Division of Documentation Libraries, Archives and Book Promotion were considered at the Unesco General Council Meeting in November in Nairobi. It was decided to establish an Information Systems and Services Council which would report through the Bureau of Studies and Programming directly to the Unesco Directorate.

Internships and Exchanges
As a result of the economic situation in this country it has been decided with regret to suspend the Internship and Exchange Schemes until the situation improves and libraries are again able to accept applications.

The British Council
At the invitation of the Central Policy Review Staffs, the Association submitted evidence to the Berrill Committee concerned with a Review of British Overseas Representation. The submission emphasized the importance of the contribution of the British Council's library and information services to international understanding.

Commonwealth Library Association (COMLA)
The Association continued to be represented on COMLA by K. C. Harrison whose term of office as first President of COMLA ended in 1977. A report on COMLA activities appears later on page 27. The Association has noted with pleasure the development of COMLA.

Visitors
Overseas. Apart from a number of visits by individual librarians to Ridgmount Street, 15 parties of overseas librarians have visited headquarters during the year for discussions and information. They were from Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Holland, Russia and the United States of America. A party of Swedish architectural students also visited the Association.

Home. Six parties of students from library schools visited Ridgmount Street during the year as well as two parties of librarians from county library authorities.

Information Department

The Information Department is now a well-established part of the Association and continues to provide a wide range of current awareness services, not only for Headquarters staff but also for members of the profession and for the public generally. The *Newsheet* continued to play an important role in the dissemination of information, and the number distributed rose from 90 to 165.

Inquiry work has also continued to grow, and full use has been made of the files available in the Department. The number of inquiries concerning equipment has risen, although interest continues to remain centred upon small items rather than, for example, a complete refitting. The building's files have been used by both librarians and students, the latter mainly for project and research work. Whilst the number of new buildings opening remains fairly constant there is still a need for the files to be available. The number of inquiries during the year has risen from 3000 to

nearly 3500, with the majority still being made by telephone. Many inquiries this year were again concerned with financial matters, such as average book prices, and the effects of local government expenditure cuts.

Publications

Serial Publications

The re-launching of the *Library Association Record* in January 1976, under the editorship of Roger Walter, was undoubtedly one of the most considerable undertakings handled by the Publications Department. The new journal has had its critics but the indications are that it has won a wide measure of support among the majority of members. There is no question that advertisers prefer the *Record* in its new guise; advertisement revenue for 1976 was approximately 30% up on 1975. Full credit must go to Mr Walter and the printers for producing what was virtually a new publication within four months of his arrival at Ridgmount Street and with the assistance of only one part-time journalist and a typist. Few periodicals are ever perfect and work continues with each issue to improve the *Record* still further.

The Association's six journals all achieved their estimated subscription figures for 1976, a satisfactory performance given that subscription rates were substantially increased and that the economic climate was far from favourable.

The production of *LISA* has now been computerized which, while it has posed a number of problems, will undoubtedly be beneficial as it will provide a machine-readable tape which can be marketed to a variety of data bases including the new international consortia currently being planned.

Mr Eric Coates, editor of *British Technology Index* since its inception in 1962, intimated his decision to retire in the Spring of 1977 and Mr Tom Edwards, editor of *LISA*, was appointed to succeed him. Accordingly, Mr Jeremy Digger, formally Senior Research Assistant, Subject Systems Office in the British Library, was appointed to succeed Mr Edwards and he took up his duties with *LISA* in September.

General Publications

April saw the retirement of the Editor of General Publications, Mr F. J. Cornell, after 40 years of service to the Association. His quiet professionalism and unassuming efficiency are greatly missed but the Association has been lucky to obtain the services of Mr Stephen York as his successor. Much of Mr York's time during the first months of his appointment was devoted to the preparation of three special volumes to mark the centenary of the Association and these were duly published in a uniform edition on 2nd December with a de-luxe boxed edition to follow early in 1977. Among other notable new titles to be published during 1976 were *The Effective Library*, which received a wide and mainly enthusiastic press, and the latest in the series of books on library architecture, *New Library Buildings* (1976 issue), edited by Herbert Ward.

Sales of books and monographs were disappointing and the turnover for the year was approximately £70 000 which was £28 000 less than in 1975. Contributory factors were the economic situation and the relatively few new titles published. However, the prospects for the future look brighter as the first new titles commissioned since the appointment of the present Publishing Manager are now coming

off the presses and it is expected that they will increase revenue. Furthermore, it is generally the case that the regular publication of new books (there are 28 new titles scheduled for 1977 as opposed to 12 in 1976) encourages the sale of backlist titles with a consequent improvement in the total revenue. The growing network of overseas sales agents has been further strengthened by the appointment of representatives to cover Pakistan, Western Europe and the USA and it is expected that increased sales will result.

New Books

British Librarianship Today, edited by W. L. Saunders. ISBN 0 85365 498 0. (Library Association Centenary Volume.)

Directory of Medical Libraries in the British Isles. 4th edition. Compiled by the Medical Section of the Library Association. ISBN 0 85365 049 7.

The Effective Library. Barry Totterdell and Jean Bird. Edited by Margaret Redfern. ISBN 0 85365 248 1. (Research Publications Series No. 16.)

A History of the Library Association 1877-1977, by W. A. Munford. ISBN 0 85365 488 3. (Library Association Centenary Volume.)

Library Association Year Book 1976. ISBN 0 85365 398 4.

New Library Buildings (1976 issue), edited by Herbert Ward. ISBN 0 85365 089 6.

New Readers Start Here. 2nd edition, edited by Jean Bell. ISBN 0 85365 059 4.

Proceedings of National Conference, Scarborough 1976. ISBN 0 85365 199 X.

Prospects for British Librarianship, edited by K. C. Harrison. ISBN 0 85365 009 8. (Library Association Centenary Volume.)

Service Points in Sparsely Populated Areas (8th Anglo-Scandinavian Conference Papers), edited by Colston Hartley. ISBN 0 85365 189 2.

Supplement to Sources for the History of Education, edited by Dr C. W. J. Higson. ISBN 0 85365 452 2.

In Preparation

A Bibliography of Cricket, edited by E. W. Padwick.

Biography of E. A. Savage, by J. G. Ollé.

Books and Periodicals for Medical Libraries, 5th edition.

British Librarianship and Information Science (1971-75), edited by H. A. Whatley.

Chosen for Children (3rd edition), edited by Alec Ellis.

Developments in the Organization and Availability of Non-Book Materials (Joint CET/Aslib/LA Seminar Pamphlet).

The English Association Handbook of Literary Societies and Collections, edited by Dr A. C. Percival.

Guide to Foreign Language Grammars and Dictionaries (3rd edition), by A. J. Walford and J. E. O. Screen.

Guide to Reference Material, Volume III (3rd edition), edited by A. J. Walford.

Guide to Irish Bibliographic Material (2nd edition), by A. R. Eager.

History of Public Libraries in Great Britain (2nd edition), by Thomas Kelly.

The National Central Library, by S. P. L. Filon.

Hospital and Welfare Library Services: an International Bibliography, by E. E. Cumming.

In-Service Training in British Libraries, by R. J. Edwards.
LA Management Pamphlet Series (6 titles in preparation). General Editor, Alex Wilson.
LA Centenary Pamphlet, by Philip Plumb.
A Librarian's Handbook, compiled by L. J. Taylor. ISBN 0 85365 079 9.
Management Training in Librarianship, by Ursula Anderson (LA Research Publication No. 18).
Libraries in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland (1977 edition).
News Library Systems, by Geoffrey Whatmore.
Politics and Public Libraries in England and Wales (1850-1970), by John E. Pemberton.
Public Library Services for Ethnic Minorities in Great Britain, edited by E. A. Clough.
Library Resource Provision in Schools: guidelines and recommended standards.
A Study of Readership Surveys and User Surveys, by M. L. Ward.
Tale of the Future (2nd edition), by I. A. Clarke.

British Library (Library Association Library)

In the calendar year 1976 the Library Association Library continued to operate its services under the British Library in the same framework as reported last year. A comprehensive programme of guided tours for British Library staff was carried out and in eleven visits from January to March some 200 staff from the various Divisions and Departments of the British Library were given an introductory talk and were shown the stock and services of the Library. Eight other visiting groups from the United Kingdom were also welcomed, comprising 180 individuals. Foreign students of librarianship came from several countries, notably USA, Denmark, Netherlands, and West Germany, totalling 12 parties and approximately 260 individuals.

By the end of August new additions to the book stock were being catalogued in machine readable form. Titles already in the MARC record (British or American), amounting to about 33% of the current intake, are now "called off" and the others catalogued by LAL staff in compatible form. The opportunity this change of method offered was taken to classify all future additions by the Dewey Decimal Classification 18th edition. Catalogues for public use will be on microfiche, and additional reading apparatus has already been installed. The development work involved in designing this new system has resulted in a smaller number of books being passed completely through the system than last year: 2015 (2483 in 1975) of which 282 were extra copies (468 in 1975). By the end of the year the basic author/title cataloguing procedures were settled and it was expected that substantial progress on reclassifying the older stock would be possible, especially as the BL database extended its coverage. Work remains to be done on adapting the PRECIS systems to LAL use.

The two proposals mentioned last year for installing new units of fixed and mobile shelving in the basement were both implemented before the end of March and are now in use. Sorting archival material before storage in the compact unit has proceeded as opportunity offered throughout the year.

The use of the Library's loan service increased dramatically. A total of 13 774 books and pamphlets were borrowed (12 743 in 1975), the highest figure since the record 14 662 of 1972. Periodical parts borrowed, however, were exceptionally high at 7077, nearly 2000 above the record of 1973 (5107), and 63% above 1975 (4345 parts). The overall increase of book, pamphlet and periodical loans for 1976 over 1975 was 18½%. The British Library Lending Division continued to pass on to the LA Library request forms which could not be satisfied from stock and of 878 received, 61% were satisfied by loans and a further percentage by photocopy. Overall satisfaction rates have not been recorded so far for personal borrowers, but it appears that institutional requests (a small proportion of the whole) reached 80% satisfaction, of which 66% were loans and 14% photocopies. A separate total of photocopied extracts supplied was not regularly recorded, but samples suggest the figure to be of the order of 900.

The current awareness service to British Library staff was continued in 1976 with 10 issues of the periodical CABLIS. From about the middle of 1977 this service will be available on subscription to other library organizations.

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES ON JOINT COMMITTEES AND OTHER BODIES

BNB Research Fund *(J. M. Plaister, BSc(Econ))*

Many applications for awards from the BNB Research Fund have been received since the Fund was set up in 1975. Some projects are still under consideration, some require further planning and development before they can become the subject of an application and others have been rejected, generally because they were outside the conditions of the Fund.

It was with these latter in mind that the Committee, early in 1976, produced "A brief guide to applications for an Award".

At its meetings in 1975 the Committee had identified two main areas of interest to the organization represented on the Committee:

(i) The study of interface between publisher, bookseller and libraries, with particular reference to the introduction of machine-assisted methods.

(ii) Research into books and their use.

It is both interesting and gratifying to the Committee that applications for awards in both these areas have been forthcoming.

The first grant made from the Fund was to Mrs Margaret Mann to compile a select annotated bibliography on the reading habits of adults. This has been completed and should be published early in 1977.

The first phase of "the interface project" was undertaken by Aslib. This consisted of an extension of the UK MARC format to include acquisition data elements. The next stage of this project will be to circulate and consult libraries and book suppliers who are MARC-oriented.

The BNB Research Fund Committee has also agreed to fund, over a period of four years, the monitoring of the Bradford Book Flood Experiment. This will examine the effects of an experiment in which two schools will be flooded with additional books. The research builds upon and extends an original New Zealand study by the introduction of control schools into a pre-test, post-test design.

Funds will also be made available for the completion of the revised Bliss classification, as it was felt that its completion would be of significance for practical librarianship and teaching. It should be pointed out, however, that this does not imply the British Library's endorsement of Bliss rather than the other schemes.

British National Committee for UNISIST and NATIS *Professor A. J. Evans, BPharm, PhD)*

The principal item of discussion during the period under review (October 1975-October 1976) both in the British National Committee and in UNESCO itself, concerned the overall organization of information and related activities within the UNESCO structure. The report of the Director General had suggested that there were two possibilities—either an enlarged UNISIST Steering Committee or a new body to be called an "Information Systems and Services Council". In either case all UNISIST and NATIS activities would be taken into account. Whilst the BNC favoured the latter, it was agreed that the UK representative to the UNESCO conference should feel free to negotiate a compromise if the majority were in favour of the former. It was stressed that whatever happened the most important need was to ensure that the general programme went through and was not postponed for another two years. It was felt that no rigid division should be made in UNESCO activities between the information functions of libraries and their cultural and educational functions.

Subsequent to this the General UNESCO Conference held in Nairobi in November 1976 agreed that an Intergovernmental Council for the general information programme should be set up and that the overall general programme should cover the activities of UNESCO in the fields both of scientific and technological information, and of documentation, libraries and archives.

There was also a general discussion in the BNC on the problems of dissemination of information on UNISIST and NATIS activities and publications in the UK and it was agreed that four separate working groups should be established, each consisting of a few members of the BNC, together with other invited persons. Each would examine one of the following divisions of the general information programme:

1. Promoting the formulation of national and regional policies and plans.
2. Promoting the establishment and application of methods, norms and standards.
3. Contributing to the development of information "infrastructures" (by which UNESCO means libraries and information services) and to the application of modern techniques of data collection, processing, transfer and reproduction.
4. Promoting the training and education of information specialists and information users.

British Records Association *(G. Thompson, FLA)*

The Association, like the Standing Conference for Local History, has continued to take a great interest in the progress of the Parochial Registers and Records Measure which is of particular concern to the institutions which it represents.

The Association's Journal *Archives* has from this year been considered as a normal part of the service provided by the Association to its subscribers. The consequent increase in subscription has meant the loss of a few members but on the whole the venture has been well received.

The very valuable work of the Record Preservation Section is in jeopardy because of the continuous and growing deficit, its expenditure considerably exceeding income from the Treasury grant, donations and other normal sources of income. The Association is looking urgently into ways of obtaining further grants for this service.

Despite its financial difficulties the Records Preservation Section has once again distributed a greater number of documents than in any previous year. Most county record offices (and many libraries) have received more than one deposit during the year and some have received three It is very much to be hoped that this work may obtain sufficient finance to continue.

British Standards Institution—Documentation Standards Committee *(M. Yeliand, BA)*

During 1976 a number of British Standards were published, drawn up by technical committees under the aegis of the Documentation Standards Committee. They included:

BS 3700: 1976. Recommendations for the preparation of indexes to books, periodicals and other publications.

BS 5332: 1976. Data elements for the interchange of serials records.

BS 5408: 1976. Glossary of documentation terms.

as well as 4 sections of BS 1000. Universal Decimal Classification. English full edition.

The *Glossary of documentation terms* represents a major achievement of some 9 years' work and should prove an invaluable reference tool for librarians. The standard on the preparation of indexes, a revision of an earlier standard, has attracted favourable reviews; unusually for a British Standard, though very properly, it contains an index.

Many representatives of the Association serve on the technical committees and panels of BSI and help to ensure that standards, which are inevitably arrived at through a process of compromise, do generally reflect the requirements of libraries. Once again our thanks are due to them for their patient work. Amongst the work in hand on which they are still engaged may be mentioned:

Preparation of a shortened version of BS 1629 (Bibliographical references).

Subject areas of UDC, both in the English full and English medium editions.

Part 2 (references in books and articles) of BS 5195: Bibliographical references to maps and charts.

Presentation of tables, graphs, charts and illustrations.

Guidelines for monolingual and multilingual thesauri, and principles for indexing using thesauri.

Storage and exhibition of documents. (Approaching publication.)

Archival binding.

and. in parallel with the work of ISO Committees:

Bibliographical references—essential and supplementary elements.

Outline ISBD for monographs.

Headers for microfiche—monographs and serials.

Bibliographic content designators for machine processing.

Bibliographic filing arrangements.

Formats for bibliographic information interchange on magnetic tape.

Character sets for bibliographic use.

To end on a much sadder note, Ken Mallaber, who had been for many years one of the Association's two representatives on the Documentation Standards Committee, died in the latter part of the year. He took a very active interest in documentation standards for libraries and his energy and good sense will be greatly missed. It is particularly sad that he did not live to see the result of his labours on the *Glossary of documentation terms*.

British Standards Institute: Technical—Committee DPE/9 Representation of Data Elements *(E. J. Hunter, MA)*

It is becoming increasingly common for data to be exchanged between data processing systems and it is important that all practicable steps should be taken to facilitate such exchanges.

The above Committee is concerned with the preparation and, as required, the amendment and revision of British Standards and other BSI publications specifying the methods of representing, by characters, those elements of data which are commonly interchanged among data processing systems and which are not specific to particular applications. Examples of such "elements" are "units of measurement" and "occupations". Some of these elements have a certain degree of relevance where the application of computers to librarianship is concerned; others (e.g. "blood types") are irrelevant.

A recently published example of a standard prepared by this Committee is:

BS 5249: Pt. 1: 1976. Representation of elements of data in interchanges using data processing systems.

Pt. 1. Representation of dates and times.

It should be noted that the Committee is concerned merely with the rationalization of the methods of representing elements by characters, not with the representing of those characters by means of codes.

Because of the marginal relevance of the work of this Committee to the work of the Association, your representative has, from the beginning, acted as an observer rather than a full participant. With the rising cost of attendance at meetings, it was decided that as from 1976 he should be withdrawn as a member and receive papers only.

Caxton Commemoration (1976) Committee *(Mr K. C. Harrison, MBE)*

The year saw the culmination of the work of this Committee which has been meeting and preparing for the Caxton quincentenary for over two years.

Among the successful events arranged was a well attended Service of Thanksgiving at Westminster Abbey on 20th September, followed on 23rd September by the official opening by Lord Eccles of the William Caxton Exhibition mounted in the King's Library of the British Library Reference Division.

A new biography of Caxton by George D. Painter was published by Chatto and Windus and the Post Office issued four commemorative stamps. Another London event was held on 7th December when the Lord Mayor and the Corporation of the City of London held a Reception at Guildhall to which many members of the Library Association were invited.

Many libraries all over the country mounted exhibitions and displays relating either to the work of Caxton or to fine modern examples of the art of printing.

Commonwealth Library Association *(Mr K. C. Harrison, MBE)*

The year was progressive and helpful for the future of COMLA. The Trustees of the Commonwealth Foundation announced that COMLA would receive £45 000 over the three years beginning 1st July 1976. This represents a 50% increase on the subvention for the first triennial but it has to be remarked that inflation and the falling value of the pound have eroded the increase. Nevertheless, it is encouraging to know that COMLA's future is assured at least until mid-1979.

COMLA Newsletter has at last achieved status in print. Three issues came out, these being a double number 11/12 for February/May, number 13 dated August and number 14 dated November 1976. The latter is a 20-page publication and advertisements are now a feature.

The Secretary (Mrs C. P. Fray) paid a private visit to London in August but during that time was able to meet the President (J. C. Harrison) and the Immediate Past President (K. C. Harrison). Arrangements were made for COMLA Executive 5 to meet in Kingston, Jamaica, from 29th October to 3rd November. Later in August the President convened a COMLA reunion during the IFLA General Council at Lausanne and 19 representatives from seven Commonwealth countries were able to meet on that occasion.

COMLA Executive 5 met in Kingston as arranged and there was a full attendance. One day was set aside for a Commonwealth Caribbean Regional Council, at which members of the Executive were joined by librarians from Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago who had been attending the VIIIth ACURIL Conference in Kingston. This Regional Council discussed a wide range of topics including the future training of Commonwealth librarians, rural library projects and the possibilities of further regionalization within COMLA.

The COMLA Executive revised its budgets for the next two years and, subject to the availability of funds, decided to implement a number of projects. A sum of US$3300 is to be released from COMLA's budget to be applied to an attachments and internships scheme. All interested should channel their requests through their home library associations. A small grant was authorized to the Zambia Library Association in recognition of its hosting in Lusaka of the Standing Conference of Eastern, Central and Southern African Librarians. COMLA is also to establish a Committee on the Development of Rural Library Services based on proposals submitted by Andrew deHeer. The Secretary is seeking aid from a number of funding agencies in order to support a Workshop on Research Methodology in South East Asia in 1977, also for a Seminar on Public Library Development in Malaysia during the same year, and for other projects.

COMLA also hopes to assess library development in the South Pacific where three areas of known need have been identified—bibliographical services, training and the formation of a regional library association.

Council for Educational Technology Working Group on the Study of Non-book Materials in Librarianship Education *(N. W. Beswick, MA)*

The Working Group has met regularly during 1976. Among the activities arising were:

1. A series of seminars with LA branches, which is still continuing. This has enabled various aspects of the librarianship of non-book materials to be discussed with interested librarians, wherever possible at middle-management level and above.

2. A national seminar on developments in the librarianship of non-book materials was held in November in London, in association with the LA. I understand that this was most successful.
3. A pilot project was established in collaboration with College of Librarianship Wales, to investigate possibilities of the production and interchange of materials on non-book media librarianship teaching between library schools and in-service training personnel. A research assistant was appointed for a six-month study, and a report is due in the new year.
4. A list of lecturers and consultants on aspects of non-book materials in librarianship education was compiled; over 800 copies were distributed and subsequent requests from individuals were fulfilled. All the first printing is now gone, and the working group is awaiting more information about the response before proceeding further.
5. A set of course guides on non-book materials, for library schools and others planning educational and in-service programmes in librarianship, has been drawn up. Participating were lecturers from schools of librarianship in Leeds and Newcastle polytechnics, as well as Norman Beswick from Loughborough University who was also the editor. The guides are now in an advanced stage of preparation, and will be published by the Council for Educational Technology as early as possible in 1977. It is likely that a joint seminar with members of ABLISS will follow, perhaps towards the end of March.

International Association of Music Libraries (UK Branch) *(E. T. Bryant, MA)*
It has not been a happy year for music librarians. As the leases of London headquarters of music publishers have come up for renewal, the rise in rental required has caused many of them to move away because they find that they cannot afford to stay. When this happens, publishers often withdraw many slow-selling items in their lists, and it seems fairly certain that most works so treated will not be available again in the future. Individual gaps may not be important but, taken as a whole, the loss is very considerable. A related problem concerns orchestral parts of works that are only available for hire, and not for sale. Many of these scores are becoming useless with age and from mutilation with phrasing marks, etc. Again, publishers are withdrawing standard and important works that are not regularly heard in our concert halls but which thoroughly warrant an occasional hearing. This policy must lead to the impoverishment of concert programmes. The IAML Branch Committee has continued to monitor these trends, and hopes that its discussions with the Music Publishers' Association will, in time, produce some solutions to the problems.

On a more cheerful note, good progress has been made in recording the orchestral parts to be found in public libraries up and down the country. The projected union catalogue is nearing completion and it is hoped to publish it in 1977.

Recommendations have been made on behalf of the Branch towards the revision of the music rules in AACR. A one-day conference for Music College and University librarians was held early in the year, and the annual joint conference (with the LA Audio-visual Group) at Trinity Hall, Oxford, was well attended. Additionally, a record number of UK members were able to participate in the annual meeting of the Branch's parent body, held in August in Bergen.

The National Book League *(John N. Allen, BA)*
In response to the widespread economic difficulties of the present and the future, the National Book League has been giving consideration to ways in which it can co-operate more closely with libraries throughout the country. It was felt that there could well be much unnecessary duplication of activities, especially in the promotion of books and reading, which could be avoided; principles could be sought to work out future programmes in this field jointly with the Library Association and the National Book League might well be able to fill in gaps that the Library Association has been forced to leave, and *vice versa*.

The relatively low number of libraries currently in membership of the League has been a source of regret and it is suggested that in spite of, or perhaps because of, the difficult economic climate, renewals of lapsed membership might well prove worthwhile.

Within the organization the year has been characterized by a search for a renewed sense of direction, by the desire to take a fresh look at whom it should be seeking to serve and in what ways to do this most effectively.

National Fund for Research into Crippling Diseases *(P. W. Plumb, JP)*
The Fund's Committee on Writing and Reading Aids for the Paralyzed held a successful one-day conference, opened by Mr Alf Morris, MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Disabled, in May to discuss proposals for an information centre for teaching aids in special and ordinary schools for motor handicapped pupils. As a result, one offer of accommodation for such a centre has been received.

Open University Advisory Committee on Student Library Services *(H. Barnes, DMA, AMBIM, MILGA)*
The functions of this Advisory Committee were reviewed early in the year, and it was generally agreed that it would continue to serve a useful purpose. Among its functions the Committee decided that it should:

(a) foster and encourage the good use of libraries and library resources, including resources other than books;
(b) advise the University on how it might wish to react to developments being sponsored by other national bodies;
(c) evaluate the implications for libraries of continuing developments in the University and changes of University policy;
(d) keep a watching brief over liaison between the University and the library service at local level.

Three items of particular interest to librarians, which were discussed during the year, concern the policy of the OU recommended reading lists, guides to the use of libraries, and research into liaison between the Open University and libraries.

There was feeling that the recommended reading lists were generally too long, and in some cases, too obscure, with the result that many of the items were not available in libraries. The Advisory Committee urged course teams to look most carefully at ways of improving reading lists in order to encourage students to read some titles, while enabling libraries to play a full and useful part.

Guides to the use of libraries have now been prepared for about 15 courses, and this number is increasing. The Advisory Committee felt that encouragement should be given to this development.

A continuous area of concern was that of liaison and co-operation between the Open University and libraries, and the Committee welcomed research into this area. It was reported that an inquiry was being undertaken by the University's Yorkshire, northern and south-eastern regions, in co-operation with Sheffield University Post-graduate School of Librarianship. This was investigating the possible problems associated with the availability of library facilities and specialist information sources, taking a sample of four higher level courses. It had been prompted because some courses now require students to undertake projects involving original research, and some courses necessitated access to statistical information.

The project expected to identify the sorts of libraries students tried to use, and their degree of success or failure. It was felt that evidence of students' use or non-use of libraries would help libraries in their selection of books, and therefore provide a better service to Open University students. The Advisory Committee welcomed the fact that the findings of the inquiry would be published in some detail, and was assured that individual libraries would not be identified.

To summarize, the Advisory Committee played a useful part in establishing links between the Open University and librarians, which it expects to continue and develop.

Scottish Technical Education Council

Course Committee C6—Library and Information Science *(J. M. Orr)*

The main business of the year was conducted by a Syllabus Sub-Committee, of which I was an appointed member. At the beginning of the year the Course Committee had outlined the objectives and major principles of the course and delegated to the Syllabus Panel the task of producing detailed syllabuses.

It was possible to present these syllabuses to the full Course Committee on 29th November 1976 at which meeting the proposals were approved for submission to the Sector Committee. Their observations are now awaited.

I think the following points should particularly be noted by the Association:

1. The intent of the syllabus is clearly for "Technical support staff at sub-professional level" and it has never been the intention that the qualification be regarded as a professional one.
2. Considerable efforts were made by the Syllabus Panel to make sure the syllabus (particularly the wording of it) was clearly intended for support staff, not professional staff.
3. The proposal is to allow the course to be run as from the beginning of Session 1977/78.
4. When approved by SCOTEC appropriate colleges in Scotland may opt to offer the course with the approval of the Scottish Education Department.
5. The normal appropriate entry qualifications will be four SCE passes, at least one at "higher" grade and one year's practical library experience.
6. The probable structure of the course would be on the basis of one-day release for two sessions.
7. Students successful in the course would be awarded a certificate from SCOTEC.
8. The Syllabus Panel did have one eye to the future and it is possible that additional studies may be added, possibly in specialist areas of librarianship, to take students to a Higher Certificate.

The Society of Indexers *(K. G. B. Bakewell, MA, AMBIM)*

This has probably been the most outstanding year in the history of the Society of Indexers, due largely to the energy and enthusiasm of the Honorary Secretary, Mr J. Ainsworth Gordon. The Society's first national conference, held in March 1976, was a huge success and was widely reported in the national and book trade press. Perhaps even more important, the Society's activities are becoming less confined to the metropolis, with a number of local activities and increased international interest in the Society's affairs. Preparations are under way for a conference of Scottish members, to be held in Edinburgh in March 1977, and for the first international conference of indexers, to be held in London in 1978 to mark the 21st anniversary of the Society. Most of the Society's meetings are of interest to librarians and I shall continue to send details to the Editor of the *Record* for inclusion in the "Calendar". The Society's journal, *The Indexer*—which also contains articles of interest to librarians—continues to be well received and was favourably commented on by Bernard Levin, a notable recruit to the Society, in *The Times* of 17th December 1976. The Council continues to be grateful to the Library Association for allowing its meetings and the AGM to take place at LA headquarters.

Standing Conference for Local History *(G. Thompson, FLA)*

The Standing Conference for Local History, which is a sub-division of the National Council of Social Service, has exercised both a co-ordinating and a representative role for meetings of the informal Record Users Group. Members of this Group have been involved in bringing influence to bear on behalf of those who research in parochial records and who will be affected by current proposals concerning the availability of those records and the charging of fees for searches in parish records.

The same Record Users Group has submitted a memorandum to the Advisory Council on Public Records whose task it is "to advise the Lord Chancellor on matters concerning public records in general and in particular on those aspects of the work of the Public Records Office which affect members of the public who make use of its services."

A working party of the Conference is being set up "to explore and make recommendations concerning the whole problem of the collection, recording, conservation, storage and use of source materials in local history (in libraries) in England and Wales."

A further working party has been set up "to conduct inquiries to enable an assessment to be made of the pattern of interest, activity and of study, in local history in England and Wales; and to make recommendations for meeting any needs revealed by amateur and professional local historians for support and services."

The Conference has written to the Secretary of State for Education and Science giving whole-hearted support to the views on the importance of local history collections contained in sections 32-37 of the Library Information Series No. 2 document *The public library service: reorganization and after*. "The hope was expressed to the Secretary of State that local history collections in libraries would continue to be maintained, and made available to the public, notwithstanding the present difficult financial times. The Department indicated in reply that it considers that 'Special attention needs to be paid to the maintenance of this material' and expressed the hope that the public would continue to be able to benefit from its availability."

One new booklet *Building stones of England and Wales* has been published

during the year and five more new ones, plus one revision are in the pipeline.

Three issues of the journal *The local historian* have been published instead of the usual four in an attempt to defer a rise in the annual subscription.

The Court of the University of Sussex *(John N. Allen, BA)*

The Court of the University of Sussex met on 17th December 1976. In his address, the new Vice-Chancellor, Sir Denys Wilkinson, stated that Sussex University faces a gloomy financial future which could involve cut-backs and rethinking teaching methods.

Natural wastage of staff and planned vacancies might not be enough to cope with the threatened 4% cuts in future Government grants to the University if they were put into effect.

But if the University faces economic troubles there is no shortage of potential students. Sir Denys said applications this year were up by roughly 15% compared with a national average increase of 11%, and there was a slight swing back to sciences from the arts, which would help redress staff/student ratios.

University Treasurer, Mr George Edwardes-Jones, said that long-term savings which did not seriously damage teaching and research would probably have to be borne by planned vacancies. Salaries and wages accounted for about 75% of University expenditure which topped £10 million for the first time last year.

As far as the University Library was concerned, the report for the session 1975-76 was in many ways a satisfactory one, making up for some of the difficulties of the previous year. But it may well prove to have been the last for some little time in which its functions could be carried out on the developmental basis which characterized the first years of this (now abandoned) quinquennium. The signs of new times came first with the discovery in May that, because of the financial climate, the University will be unable in the coming year to implement fully the "development formula" funding which directly relates the maintenance of a steady quality of Library resources and services to the growth of the University population; and, secondly, with the announcement in the same month of the University Grants Committee's proposed new policy for restricting the growth of all university libraries.

OBITUARIES

ASTBURY.—On 14 February 1976, Mrs E. A. Astbury, ALA, County Children's Librarian, East Riding County Library.

BAIGENT.—In December 1976, Mrs M. Baigent, FLA.

BALLANTYNE.—In November 1976, Miss J. F. H. Ballantyne, ALA, formerly Borough Librarian, Crosby.

BESTERMAN.—On 10 November 1976, Dr T. D. N. Besterman, DLitt, LLD, DésL, FLA.

BIBEY.—On 7 October 1976, Mr T. J. Bibey, FLA, Principal Assistant County Librarian of South Glamorgan.

BODY.—On 17 June 1976, Mr E. A. Body, ALA, District Librarian, Feltham Branch, Hounslow Public Libraries.

BOONE.—On 5 May 1976, Mr F. Boone, FLA, formerly Borough Librarian of Southwark.

CAIRNS.—On 13 June 1976, Mr W. A. Cairns, ALA, Deputy Borough Librarian, Gateshead Public Library.

DEARDEN.—In September 1976, Mr J. A. Dearden, MA, FLA, Principal Lecturer, College of Librarianship Wales.

FRANSELLA.—On 28 July 1976, Mrs M. E. Fransella, FLA, formerly Librarian of Harlesden Branch Library, Willesden, and of Coborn School.

FRY.—In January 1976, Mr W. G. Fry, FLA, formerly Deputy City Librarian of Manchester.

GOLDING.—On 4 August 1976, Mr H. N. Golding, formerly Regional Librarian for North East Hampshire.

GOOD.—On 8 September 1976, Mr A. H. Good, FLA, County Librarian of Durham.

GRIFFITHS.—In 1976, Mr A. J. Griffiths, FLA, formerly Deputy City Librarian of Liverpool.

GUEROULT.—On 3 January 1976, Miss U. M. Gueroult, FLA, Area Librarian of Whitstable Public Library, Kent County Library.

HALE.—On 10 November 1976, Mr R. D. Hale, BA, FLA, County Librarian of Cornwall.

HALLIDAY.—On 16 February 1976, Mr D. H. Halliday, FLA, formerly Chief Librarian, Northampton Public Libraries.

HAMILTON.—In July 1976, Mr D. B. T. Hamilton, ALA, Commercial Librarian, Glasgow Public Library.

HILL.—On 15 October 1976, Mr R. H. Hill, MA, FLA, formerly Librarian of the National Central Library.

HUGHES.—In December 1976, Mr E. Hughes, MBE, BA, BD, ALA.

IRWIN.—In December 1976, Professor R. Irwin, MA, FLA, formerly Director of the School of Library, Archive and Information Studies, University College, London.

JONES.—On 2 April 1976, Mr E. H. Jones, formerly Head of Reference Services, Cardiff City Libraries.

LAWRANCE.—In February 1976, Miss P. M. F. Lawrance, BA, Children's Librarian, Thornton Heath Branch, Croydon Public Library.

LEATHER.—In December 1975, Mr J. Leather, ALA, formerly Deputy Borough Librarian, Southport.

LIEBESNY.—In March 1976, Mr F. Liebesny, FIInfSc, BSc, ALA.

MCCOLVIN.—On 16 January 1976, Mr L. R. McColvin, CBE, FLA, formerly City Librarian of Westminster; Hon. Secretary of the Library Association 1934-1951, President 1952.

MALLABER.—On 12 October 1976, Mr K. A. Mallaber, FLA, formerly Head of Library Services, Department of Industry.

MARSHALL.—On 12 March 1976, Mr J. W. Marshall, ALA, Manager of Services, GEC Power Engineering, Whetstone.

MASON.—On 17 January 1976, Miss H. L. Mason, ALA, Mobile and Disadvantaged Services Librarian, Humberside County Libraries.

MASON.—On 17 January 1976, Miss S. E. Mason, ALA, Children's Librarian, Humberside County Libraries.

MORRIS.—In September 1976, Mr H. A. Morris, ALA, Newham Public Library.

NAIDU.—In 1976, Mr R. J. Naidu, BA, LT, FLA, Madras.

PEGGE.—In 1976, Mrs B. C. Pegge, ALA, Assistant Area Librarian, Chesterfield Branch, Derbyshire County Library.

PUGH.—In February 1976, Mr A. T. Pugh, ALA, Librarian, Circulation Section, Library Board of Western Australia, Perth.

PURDIE.—On 12 February 1976, Mr J. B. Purdie, FLA, formerly County Librarian of Renfrewshire.

QUINTON.—On 26 December 1975, Mr C. L. Quinton, FLA, formerly Borough Librarian of Sutton and Cheam.

SARGENT.—On 1 October 1976, Mrs N. I. Sargent, ALA, formerly Manager of Library and Information Services, Engineering Training Board.

SHAW.—In January 1976, Mrs K. A. R. Shaw, ALA, Senior Library Assistant, Heriot-Watt University.

SMITH.—In September 1976, Miss F. M. Smith, ALA.

STOCK.—On 13 April 1976, Mr A. R. Stock, FRCO, FLA, formerly Librarian, Institute of Mechanical Engineers.

TAYLOR.—On 5 April 1976, Mr L. E. Taylor, ALA, Chief Assistant, Wolverhampton Public Library.

THOROGOOD.—In 1976, Mr E. E. Thorogood, BA, ALA, Chief Cataloguer, Goldsmiths' College, University of London.

THOROLD.—On 9 September 1976, Mrs D. Thorold, formerly Chief Cataloguer, Hampstead Public Library.

TURNER.—In 1976, Miss J. M. Turner, FLA, Chief Cataloguer, Westminster City Libraries.

WEBB.—On 28 December 1975, Mr C. Webb.

WONG.—In January 1976, Miss J. C. Wong, Malaysia.